

The Four Kinds of Healing

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Introduction

1. Today's goal is a basic overview:
What is healing ministry? How does it work? How do we get started?
2. Healing Ministry: why try?
 - a. The Name of Jesus is lifted up
 - b. God's love for us
3. The priesthood of all believers and the laborers for harvest

A. Spiritual Healing

1. The beginning of all healing is *forgiveness*
2. Spiritual healing comes through a prayer of *repentance*
3. Along with repenting of our sins, the most common spiritual healing comes through *forgiving those who have sinned against us*.
4. More than just obedience to a command (though it is that), here is why it is *healing*:
 - a. Freedom from bitterness
 - b. Jesus shows His love for us
5. In praying for others, we need to understand that forgiveness is not simple and involves many stages, we can't rush it. And it is the Holy Spirit's job to convict, not ours.

B. Inner Healing

1. Our deepest need is for love

2. Basic idea of Inner Healing: Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, can take the painful memories of the past and:

a. *Heal us* from the inner wounds that remain from those past events

b. *Fill us* with His love; pouring into that wound the love that we needed

“Many Christians are hindered by a haunting sense of worthlessness, erratic fits of anger or depression, anxiety and irrational fear, compulsive sexual drives, and other problems which we would like to change but usually are unable to do so simply by repenting and trying harder.”

- Francis MacNutt

3. Called the “healing of memories” because a particular healing is centered around a particular event in our lives, something that happened in our past.

In Inner Healing we ask Jesus to walk back to that memory, back to the time when we experienced a hurt and we ask Him to free us from the effects of that wound.

4. Inner Healing involves two things:

a. *bringing to light* the things that have hurt us or about which we are most deeply ashamed, naming the emotional pain.

b. *prayer to set us free*, in which we ask Jesus to heal the lasting effects of this wound.

5. Jesus has the power to drain from us the poison, shame, and crippling effects of our past. When this healing occurs, those memories can no longer cripple us.

Requires patience, gentleness, and time. Does not require intense probing or analysis. The Holy Spirit is able to bring to the fore the memory and wound that needs to be addressed.

6. Helpful questions:

a. When did this condition begin?

b. Do you have any idea what caused it? [usually rejection or broken relationship]

c. When it's unclear, we ask for the Spirit's revelation to show the root cause

7. When the root is identified, we walk back in an imaginative way into the memory, and we ask Jesus to reveal how He will heal the emotional hurts.

Using the imagination in prayer: looking for Jesus. What does He say? Do?

C. Physical Healing

1. Listen first: *whether* or not to pray

2. How to discern?

a. Word of knowledge

b. Signs that God's healing power is present: warming sensation or flow of electricity

c. Intuition

"Our prayers will help some and will not help others, for reasons beyond our understanding or control. If we listen to the voice of God, we will be shown for whom to pray." – Agnes Sanford

3. If the discernment is "yes" to pray, then listen for *what* to pray

a. Listen to the person as they tell you what is wrong

b. Listen to God

4. General formula (simplest of the four kinds of healing for knowing *what* to say)

a. Praise and Thanksgiving

b. Prayer for healing

i. prayer of command

ii. petition.

5. “If it be Your will” vs. “Lord, do this according to Your will.”

6. If the person or you notice something happening, keep going. If not, stop and ask the Holy Spirit if you should keep praying.

7. Healing can take a lot of time and energy!

“There is mystery involved in praying for healing. Be obedient by praying for the sick and allow for mystery without getting discouraged when nothing appears to happen when you pray.”
Francis MacNutt

8. *Time* is important component in healing because most healing is not instant.

D. Deliverance

1. Demons exist and are more prevalent than most Christians realize.

2. How to resist at the most basic level:

a. Pray protection for ourselves and family

b. Drive spirits away from ourselves and our homes

3. Naming and/or identifying the demon is usually a necessary part of deliverance.

a. lesser ones – named after vices (lust, anger, hatred, misogyny, misandry, envy, etc.)

b. greater ones – pagan deities (Baal, Ashtoreth, Molech, Dagon, etc.)

4. How do demons gain access?

a. Occult activity or any non-Christian spirituality

b. Spirits of sin: frequent and *deliberate* sin is an open door to the demonic.

c. Trauma (most common entry point)

5. Indications that Deliverance is needed:

a. Compulsion: I've done everything I can, and I can't stop.

b. The person knows.

c. prayer for inner healing has been tried at length, with no success.

E. Conclusion

1. Complex – avoid the error of oversimplification; no silver bullet method or technique with a guaranteed result.

a. interrelatedness of the four kinds of healing

b. discernment

2. Prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit